



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Meeting Minutes 03/10/2008

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
3/10/08

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan		Dunn*	Phelps*	Mahoney
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons	Bayer*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning	Carman	Turkall*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Permanent Town Building Committee Chair John Cole, Co Chairs of Vision 2020 Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Environment Task Group Elizabeth Karpati, Spy Pond Task Group Bill Eykamp
MINUTES of 3/5 approved as corrected. Unanimous.

ART 55 APPROPRIATION THOMPSON SCHOOL: Cole stated that unless state matching funds were available, no action would be needed. Foskett reviewed a recent meeting with representatives of the MSBA attended by a large Arlington delegation. The MSBA wants a new physical assessment of the school and an enrollment projection. They suggested their contractor. A study is planned in the next 4 months.

VOTED no action. Unanimous.

PARK CIRCLE FIRE STATION: Cole reported that the station is in use. The PTBC has negotiated w/ the MWRA to build a fire/police antenna on the water tower rather than raise an unattractive antenna beside the new building. Work has begun.

CAPITAL BUDGET VOTE: Foskett reported that the vote taken 3/5 may have to be revised because of \$20k increase in cost of the chiller at the rink.

BUD 14 PLANNING: GenGov SubCom (Howard) made a salary correction.

VOTED \$225,535. Unanimous

BUD 15 REDEVELOPMENT: GenGov SubCom (Howard) Recommended the budget as printed, noting that, under the new leases, the Parmenter & Crosby tenants will pay energy charges directly causing a drop in expenses. He also discussed (& provided copies) the Planning Dept operating plans for the ARB buildings. The new depreciation calculation is not understood by the FinCom. Howard to ask O'Brien to explain on Wed.

ART 65 WATER BODIES: Jane Howard, using a handout, explained that the 2006 Town Meeting home rule request for a water bodies fund, though reported favorably from the relevant legislative committee, never was voted by the legislature. W/ the help of our state reps, the Governor resubmitted the bill this year. A hearing has been held.

Given the legislative track record, we were advised to revote the home rule legislation & to appropriate another \$15k. The revote would permit the BoS to resubmit the home rule legislation in Jan should it get stalled again. Part of the 2006 appropriation was used for water testing of 3 water bodies. Some \$4k to \$5K remain.

VOTED favorable action as was done in 2006. Unanimous.

BUD 18c FIRE: PubSafe SubCom(Bayer) recommended the budget as printed. He noted that the overtime & salaries budget is expected to be overdrawn \$62k. It is likely that the FY09 overtime budget is also too small.

Members stated that knowingly appropriating too little is poor budgeting. Bayer said he is impressed by the new chief, Bob Jefferson's concern w/ controlling spending. Also \$120k in retirement buyouts are anticipated for FY08.

VOTED \$5,009,209. 9-5

BUD 22a HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: HumSer SubCom (Franclemont) recommended the budget as revised in

January.

VOTED \$276,376 Unanimous

BUD 22b VETERANS: HumSer SubCom (Franclemont) recommended the budget as printed. The director is negotiating in kind support for veterans where practical.

VOTED \$\$236,934. Unanimous

BUD 22c COUNCIL ON AGING: HumSer SubCom (Franclemont) recommended the budget as revised in January. She noted that this budget has significant grant support.

VOTED \$143,322. Unanimous.

COUNCIL ON AGING TRANSPORTATION EF: HumSer SubCom (Franclemont) recommended the budget as printed. She noted that elderly persons volunteered 1800 hrs last year.

VOTED: Revenue \$109,953; Expenses \$109,543 Unanimous.

ART 73 FREE CASH: VOTED \$1,818,787 as in 5 yr plan. Unanimous.

ART 71 OVERLAY RES SURPLUS: VOTED \$500,000 as in 5 yr plan. Unanimous.

ART 70 CEMETERY: VOTED to transfer \$40K in the Capital Plan and \$150k in the Perpetual Care or Sale of Lots & Graves fund to the Commissioners. Unanimous.

ART 68 TIP FEE FUND: VOTED to transfer \$680k to Public Works. Unanimous.

ART 67 LOCAL OPTION TAXES: Tosti stated that new legislation is unlikely but should it occur, he would reconsider the vote or otherwise recommend no action.

VOTED no report at this time. Unanimous

ART 66 HARRY BARBER PROGRAM: Participation has dropped off. CoA will reinvigorate. Some members think this should be in the budgets of the departments where these people volunteer. This might cause administrative problems.

VOTED a maximum of \$7500. 13-1.

ART 64 MISCELLANEOUS: VOTED \$12729, \$3000 for out of state travel & \$9729 for indemnification of medical costs. Unanimous.

ART 63 TAC VOTED to reconsider vote of 2/20 and change it to no action if Comptroller approves fund rollover. Unanimous

TRANSFERS: VOTED to transfer \$1763 from Reserve Fund to Town Clerk for 3/4 election. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE The committee received the 2nd "final" warrant. Schedule of hearings:

On 3/12 Town Manager OPEB Consultant, ARB school balance sheets.

No meeting 4/2, 4/7, 4/9

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$276,706.28 - 1763 = 274,943,28

Peter B Howard Secretary 3/11/08 Revised 3/17/08

cc FinCom Members, Selectmen, Town Manager, Comptroller, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site

VOTE SUMMARY – Articles

# 1/28	# 2/4	# 2/20	# 3/5	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Status (Unlisted votes were unanimous)
18	5	17	17	Bylaw Amend 1,1,2, Open Warrant	3/5		No report
27	7	19	19	Bylaw Amend Afford House Trust	3/5	3/5	No action
20	14	26	26	Bylaw Amend Snow Removal	2/25		
21	15	27	27	Bylaw Amend 1,18 Mtg Notices	2/4		Tabled Tosti to discuss w/ BoS
63	39	40	41	Increase Accidental Death Benefit	2/4	2/4	Favorable action
64	40	41	42	Extend Benefits	2/4 2/20	2/4	No Action Dunn to write comment.
62	41	42	43	Pension Adjustments	2/4	2/4	Favorable action
66	43	43	44	Transfer to OPEB Funds	2/27		ACRB
65	42	43	45	Transfer OPEB Funds	2/4 3/5	3/5	No action
68	44	45	46	Borrowing for OPEB	2/11, 2/27		
67	45	46	47	Pension Obligation	2/11,		

				Funds	2/27		
45	47	48	49	Positions reclassification	2/27		Phelps to present
43	48	49	50	Collective Bargaining	2/27		
44	49	50	51	Future Collective Bargaining			
46	51	52	53	Budgets			
47	52	53	54	Capital Budget	3/3	3/5	8,538,884
		54	55	Thompson School	3/10	3/10	No action
		54	55	Swimming Pool	2/6	2/6	Favorable action \$0
55	55	56	57	Sewers			
56	56	57	58	Water			
48	57	58	59	Rescind authority to borrow	3/3	3/3	2724175
50	58	59	60	Minuteman Tech	3/5	3/5	3153412
51	59	60	61	Town Celebrations			Twn Man
53	60	61	62	Committees & Commissions	2/27		hearing if last year approp not OK
		62	63	TAC Appropriation	2/20	2/20, 3/10	Fav Action not to exceed 15k or No action if rollover ok
52	62	63	64	Miscellaneous	2/27	3/10	12729
28	63	64	65	Town Water Bodies	2/27,3/10	3/10	15000 & favorable action on home rule
70	64	65	66	Harry Barber Service Program		3/10	7500 max 13-1
69	66	66	67	Local Option Taxes		3/10	No report at this time.
72	67	67	68	Tip Fee Stab Fund		3/10	680000
58	68	68	69	Tip Fund Money Appropriation	2/6	2/6	No action
73	69	69	70	Cemetery		3/10	190000
74	70	70	71	Overlay Reserve Surplus		3/10	500000
75	71	71	72	Stabilization Fund			
76	72	72	73	Free Cash		3/10	1818787
59	73	73	74	Medicare Part D Reimbursement	2/6	2/6	No action 9-2
	74	74	75	CRB Report	2/6 2/11	2/6 2/11	Favorable Action Para 1 & 3 Request not require
57	75	75	76	Services to Non-Profits	2/6, 2/27	2/6	No report 9-1 Encourage followthrough
60	76	76	77	SPED	2/6	2/6	No action

VOTE SUMMARY-Budgets

#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Amount	Vote Unlisted votes were unanimous
1	FinCom	2/11	2/11	10778	

2	Board of Selectmen	2/20	2/20	398558	
3	Town Manager	3/3	3/3	460104	
4	Personnel	3/3	3/3	190113	
5	Information Technology	2/27	2/27	525,813	
6	Comptroller	2/27	2/27	384,443	
7	Treasurer				
8	Postage				
9	Assessors	3/3	3/3	301270	
10	Legal	2/20	2/20	460047	
11	Town Clerk	3/3	3/3	234177	
12	Registrar of Voters	3/3			Tabled for more info
13	Parking				
14	Planning	3/10	3/10	225535	
15	Redevelopment Board	3/10	3/10	328223	
16	Zoning Board of Appeals	2/11	2/11	23311	
17	Public Works	2/11	2/11	6831546	15-0-1
17a	Street Lights	2/20	2/20	418893	
18a	Community Safety Admin				
18b	Police				
18c	Fire	3/10	3/10	5009209	9-5
18d	Support				
19	Inspections				
20	Education	2/25			
21	Library	2/20	2/20	1898988	
22a	Health & Human Services	3/10	3/10	276376	
22b	Veterans	3/10	3/10	236934	
22c	COA	3/10	3/10	143322	
23	Retirement				
24	Insurance				
25	Reserve Fund	2/20	2/20	450000	
W&S EF					
Rec EF					
Rnk EF					
COA EF					
Youth EF					